

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3398
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2002
AMOUNT SPENT ON SAFTY IN COAL MINES
P.D. ELANGO VAN

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a): whether the Government have continuous check and monitoring system to look after the safety and security in coal mines in the country;
- (b): if so, the amount spent by CIL and its subsidiaries including NLC Ltd., for providing the safety measures during each of the last three years, year-wise, company- wise;
- (c): whether the Government have purchased high quality safety equipments for coal mines during the last three years; and
- (d): if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL & MINES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a): Yes, Sir. The Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) under the Ministry of Labour checks and monitors safety continuously in all mines including coal mines.

In addition, Coal India Limited monitors and checks the safety status in its coal mines through a structured Internal Safety Organisation (ISO) in each subsidiary company as well as at the apex CIL Level. The ISO reports to a Technical Director in each company.

Over and above, Workmen's Inspectors (representatives of workmen appointed in consultation with the registered trade unions who inspect mines) in each mine inspect the mines and make recommendations which have to be complied with and reported to the DGMS officials.

Besides safety committees in each mine meet once a month to monitor the safety status of the mine.

Additionally, safety is continuously monitored by area-level tripartite/bipartite committees, company level tripartite committees as well as the Coal India Safety Board and the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines. In each of these bodies representatives of workmen participate actively.

(b): The company-wise/year-wise amount spent by subsidiary companies of CIL for providing safety measures during the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 is given as under:-

(Rs. in Crores)

Company	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
ECL	84.9400	53.1114	104.2273
BCCCL	152.1200	115.6172	182.9437
CCL	13.0959	10.1580	12.8643
NCL	5.8400	3.5854	3.3000
WCL	50.7000	42.8059	57.9151
SECL	58.7400	68.1400	88.9200
MCL	10.7364	9.6500	14.8380
NEC	3.6842	3.0216	3.2105

Total (CIL)	379.8565	306.0895	468.2189
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As regards Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd., (NLC), the expenditure on protective safety equipment like helmets, shoes and other safety gadgets and training related to safety varies from Rs. 240 lakhs to Rs. 300 lakhs per year.

(c) & (d): Coal India Limited makes every effort to purchase only good quality safety equipment. During the last three years, Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries have purchased various safety equipment like:-

(i) Gas detecting/monitoring equipment such as:-

- Computerized continuous mine Environmental Telemonitoring Systems (ETMS) for giving advance alarm in case conditions conducive to build up of fire/explosion is taking place in the mine.

- Digital sensor based hand-held gas detecting instruments like toximeters, oxymeters, multi-gas detectors.

- Methanometers, Co-detectors.

(ii) Pneumatic drills for roof bolting.

(iii) Modern survey equipment like EDM, total station and distomat.

(iv) Rescue equipment like modern self contained breathing apparatus, short duration breathing apparatus and computerised testing equipment for testing breathing apparatus.